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96.00 Utility Accommodation
96.20 Location Requirements
96.23 Installation on Structures

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A. General Policy

Attachments to structures should be avoided. However, attaching utility lines to highway structures may be permitted when they do not materially affect the:

1. Structure design and appearance,
2. Safe operation of traffic, and
3. Efficiency of maintenance.

The utility shall be responsible for all Department costs associated with such attachments. This includes, but is not limited to, additional design time, increased bridge deck thickness, and future bridge maintenance (painting and inspection).

B. Installation Location Requirements

When a utility facility is attached to a structure, the installation shall be located:

1. Beneath the structure floor,
2. Inside the outer girders or beams or within a cell, and
3. At an elevation above low superstructure steel or masonry which would not inhibit bridge inspections or repairs.

A utility facility may be located within the structure's deck for new construction or deck reconstruction projects if the utility notifies the Department in advance of or while the structure is being designed.

C. Installation Openings

The openings created in the bridge abutments to allow passage of the permitted facility shall be of the minimum size necessary.

1. The opening in the abutment around the permitted facility shall be completely filled to seal the opening and effectively preclude the leakage of any moisture or backfill material through the abutment.
2. If the utility sleeves the facility through the abutment, the sleeve shall be tight-sealed into the abutment. Any space between the sleeve and the facility it encloses shall be sealed.